People and Organisations in U.N.O.

†2715. SHRI BALAVANT *ALIAS* BAL APTE: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there are such people and organizations in the country which declare themselves different 'indigenous peoples' in the United Nations Organization in spite of policy of Government of India;

(b) the names of those organizations;

(c) whether they are/were officers in Centre or States; and

(d) the view of Government towards such persons and organizations?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (d) The United Nations is an inter-governmental organization which has different forum and mechanisms like the "Forum on Indigenous peoples" for participation by non-governmental organizations (NGOs). A number of non-governmental organisations from India have accreditations, which allow them to participate in such meetings. From time to time, assertions have been made by some individuals or groups of individuals claiming to be 'indigenous peoples' while participating in the meetings of such UN mechanisms. No list of such individuals or groups is maintained.

Shooting of fishermen by Sri Lankan Navy

2716. DR. K. MALAISAMY:
SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is serious about the frequent shooting or capturing of Indian fishermen by Sri Lankan Army/Navy;

(b) if so, how can it continue quite often unless Government is reported to be indifferent or inactive towards this issue; and

(c) whether Government would take up the whole issue afresh from the beginning and go into the real intricacies and have a detailed dialogue with Sri Lankan Government and if necessary, to scrap some of the provisions of the pact between India and Sri Lanka on Katchatheevu enabling our fishermen to have the fishing rights in and around Katchatheevu?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (c) Government have always taken up on a priority basis the question of the safety of our fishermen with Sri Lanka. Whenever Indian fishermen along with their boats have been apprehended by Sri Lankan authorities, Government have intervened and got them released and repatriated to India. Incidents of firing on or apprehension of our fishermen by the Sri Lankan Navy have taken place in Sri Lankan waters, close to their shores. While it is important for our fishermen to respect the International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL), especially keeping in mind the on-going operations in Sri Lanka, we have impressed on the Sri Lankan Navy to act with restraint and for our fishermen to be treated in a humane manner.

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

As per the Agreements concluded with Sri Lanka in 1974 and 1976, the Katchatheevu Island lies on the Sri Lankan side of the India-Sri Lanka International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL). Both these agreements were subsequently laid before Parliament.

Chinese Forces on Nepal soil

†2717. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that China deploys its forces on Nepal soil;

(b) if so, whether Government has tried to find out the authenticity of the action of deploying armed forces by China in Nepal;

(c) if so, the facts in this regard and whether this action of China is also against Indian interests; and

(d) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) to (d) Government have seen reports in the Nepalese media of Chinese security personnel crossing to the Nepalese side of the China-Nepal boundary. The Spokesperson of Nepal's Ministry of Foreign Affairs has said that such reports are factually incorrect.

Visa to people from Pakistan

2718. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of visas that were issued by the Indian High Commission in Islamabad in last five years, year-wise; and

(b) the number of people from Pakistan who visited different States in India, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Year-wise number of visas issued to Pakistani nationals by High Commission of India in Islamabad is as follows:

2003	8,390
2004	62,541
2005	90,663
2006	92,334
2007	1,14,937

(b) Such information is not compiled by different States.

Visas for Pakistani national

2719. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether visa issued to a Pakistani national for Delhi is limited to Delhi city only and does not include Noida, Gurgaon or Faridabad;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.